Not Afraid to Enter Cages of the ost Vicious Serpents-The Ways They Have of Avoiding Attack-A Social Python Among the Crawling Company - Dealing With Cobras.

"Cleaning time" in the reptile house of the Zoological Park, up in the Borou h of the Bronx, witnessess scenes of real heroism among the keepers. In no o her branch of a big zoo do the men n cessa ily undergo such dangers as in the reptile department, where numerous deadly snakes are among their charges. The bite of many of these reptiles means death within a few hours-a terrible death, unless the most energetic measures are taken and the requisite antidotes be in

mmediate reach.
In the Bronx Park Zoo the reptiles are exhibited in great glass-fronted ca es. Of these there are rineteen which must be entered by a small iron door in the rear as the big glass fronts are immovable And in these cages are rattlesmakes, cop-perheads and moceasins, specimens of the deadly fer-de-lance, Gila monsters, and, besides these venomous creaturs, constrictors of enormous girth and power, which could crush a man's body with the same facility as the great coils break the bones of the unfortunate antriops that hes them in the wilds. In the cases with all these creatures the keepers-Snyder and Dahl-enter with a noncha-

lance surprising to spectators.
"Are you not atraid to go in there?"
was the question put to Snyd r as he prepared to enter a cage containing three b.g.

rattlesnakes, which were sounding a s.nister warning from within.
"Oh. no," was the reply. "I cover the
rnakes with a couple of blankets, and they
don't disturb me." don't disturb me."

Silding back the door the young fellow was greeted with the sound of the whirr from the serpent's rattles.

"That big fellow is an ugly brute," said Snyder, pointing to a green and yellow coil, from which a flat head lunged sud-"He bites everything in sight when he gets mad, and sometimes bites the other snakes, but they are immune to each oth-er's poison. After crowded days in the park, when large numbers of people pass this fellow's cage, the glass is smeared with his poison in a dozen places where he has struck at some gayly colored dress or bonnet. We have to be careful in wach-ing it off, for it mingles with the water, and should even a small portion of it enter a cut the result is apt to be serious."

Throwing a blanket over this dangerous brute and its companions, Snyder entered the cage. From under the blanket, the rattling of the snakes continued. Suddenly a smaller reptile, colled in the branches of a tree, but a few inches from the keeper's head, sounded its rattle.

"He's all right," said the snake keeper, as he vigorously scrubbed the glass. "I never knew him to strike yet. We raised that fellow, and he only rattles to show

And down the line of cages, entering each one, some of then, containing the most deadly of reptiles, went the keepers of the reptile house. Their only protec-tion was a couple of blankets, from under which the animals could have glided at will. But the most dangerous part of his work, so it seems to the visitor, are the men's duties in the big pythons' cage. Here are three giants of the reptile tibe. Sultana, twenty-five feet; Fatima, twentytwo feet, and Czarina, which is probably the largest snake in captivity. This rep-tile measures twenty-seven feet and four Her weight is nearly 225 pounds

The first part of the operation of attend-ng these monsters is the emptying of five feet long by four feet wide. The same has a depth of about six inches. One or more of the snakes is always lying in this receptacle. Sometimes the masses of reptillan flesh are packed in so tightly that little water remains. On entering the cage the keeper provides himself with a blanket. This he pushes ahead of him on a long pole. It is thrown over the top of the and he advances toward the snakes.

at frequent intervals. When the first keeper reaches the bath tub, which is generally done after dodging several playful sailies from the smaller boas, which are left uncovered, he lifts up one corner of the blanket and looks carefully beneath It to discover the whereabouts of the companied by a lunge from one of the enakes, sending the blanket sailing up-A little diplomatic maneuvring is then necessary.

Discovering at last, to his satisfaction, the position of the snake, the keeper thrusts his hand between scaly coils to the bottom of the tank, and pulls out the plug, thus letting out the water. At the time a stream of tepid water flows in from one side. This continues for about ten minutes, when the plug is again dropped into its place, and the tank re-The last thing to be done before leaving the python's cage is to spray it with a hose which emits a fine mist of tepid water. This produces the heavy atmosphere necessary for the big reptiles The blankets have already been hauled onut, and the men continue their work, entering other cages.

Not all the big snakes in the reptile house are dangerous. There are several individual reptiles which the men treat with real affection. One of these trav eled with a circus for nearly five years, during which time its cold ophidian brain seemingly acquired a knowledge of the show business. The snake is an anacon-da, about eleven feet long. When its cage is opened and its keeper starts to clean its tank the reptile invariably glides toward him, and coiling about his neck and shoulders, remains there until the operation is over. The animal has been in the reptile house for many months, and though belonging to a species gen-erally credited with a hostile nature, has never evinced an inclination to bite. It itself to be handled by the men in the building with the utmost good nature, but glides nervously from the hands

"show snake" that is annmorat. ed among the pets of the building is "Teddy," an imperial python from West Africa. This big fellow was given to the park by Mile. Olga, the snake-charmer, and seems to delight in being sociable for on crowded days, instead of retiring to the rear of the cage, as do many of the other snakes, it coils itself close to the glass, keeping its bright eyes fastened on

he crowds of spectators. Passing down the row of cages containing these various reptiles the keepers ar-rive at the last. This contains the king cobras, the most dangerous snakes in the building. No man is allowed to enter this cage. In the keepers' room a special notice commands the greatest caution in looking after these deadly creatures. Each measures over twelve feet. As the visitor behind the scenes approaches the iron door opening into the cobras' cage, he is greeted with a warning painted upon its panels This is surmounted by skull and cross It reads: "Be careful in opening age. The bite of these snakes means in spite of aid or antidote. Be i." The notice is signed by the curator of the reptile department, R. L. Dit-

Three unpleasant characteristics are possessed by the cobras. In the first place, they are exceedingly aggressive. Second-

ly, they frequently eject their venom some eight or ten feet; and, besides this, when they bite, they hold on for an inwhen they like they note to an ion and definite period, injecting more than a fatal dose of their poison. When their keeper opens the door of their cage a watcher lands in front of the glass and shouts to the rear man, warning him of every move of the snakes, so that he may act recordingly. The glass is transid on The glass is cleaned on accordingly. the inside of the cage by spraying it with a hose, and the shakes' food is introduced n the end of a more than usually long pole. On most occasions, when their cage door is opened, the cobras rise into the peculiar and graceful attitude of their kind. The green "hood" spreads widely and they watch intently for a chance to deliver a deadly blow. The least move of one of the snakes toward the door results in the latter being closed with a bang, when the men wait for the reptiles to become quiet before resuming their dangerous duties.

THOMAS H. BENTON'S VITALITY. THOMAS H. BENTON'S VITALITY.

His Daughter Explains How His Life signia of approval in order that they might

(From the Indianapolis Press.)

W. H. Lamaster's recent article in the 'Press' on Thomas H. Benton has brought out the following letter from Mrs. Jessie Benton Fremont, daughter of the man who served Missouri so long and well as its Senator, and his country long and well as one of its leading statesmen. The letter is addressed to Mr. Lamaster.

ter is addressed to Mr. Lamaster.

Los Angeles, May 20.

My Dear Str. I have reveived several copies from Mr. Harrison of your city of your appreciative paper on my father, who, indeed, deserves all you say of his was a man without taint in all that involved, and his unusual fearlessness came to his aid there. You are as correct in your statements

as is possible for an outsider, taking an outside view of a character singularly reserved-while seeming, and being, equally open and frank in matters he did not care Two points I wish to call your attention to-his education and the care of his health. His father, a lawyer, had as inti-mate friend, the Rev. John Meiklejohn. an Edinburgh scholar, who was private chaplain to Lord Tryon—the last of the Royal Governors in North Carolina, Knowing he must die of consumption, my grand-father asked of his friend to oversee his boy's education My father was eight years old when his father died, and Mr. Meikle-john redeemed his promise nobly. From him my father had his Greek and Latin, also much supervision of his general studies, until he-was sixteen—the forma-

tive years in a boy's life.

My grandmother then decided to go to Tennessee, where her husband had acquired a large land grant-40,000 acres-just south of Nashville. She was the good providence of the property, building church and schoolhouse and putting up cottages at nominal rent, so that "the Widow Benton's settlement" became a nucleus of order and thrift and a centre

of good influences. Herself, she was an uncommon woman, Of English birth-the niece of Sir William Gooch, who was for twenty-three years the honored and beloved ruler of Virginia, Anne Gooch, my grandmother, had the best English traits and their fine health. She lived to be eighty-four. From her husband's library, which was a fine one, she herself taught my father. Among other valuable works were the great folios of the British State trials, which they read through. He also went to the Dillsboro

College later, so that his opportunities were exceptionally good.

At about twenty-five he began to find in himself the evidences of consumption—the hacking cough, the low fever, followed by drenching night sweats. Three sisters and one brother had recently died from the same illness.

Then, as my father has told me, "seeing my life was to end, I resolved to give it for a purpose." So he enlisted a company under Jackson for the threatened war of 1812. He was chosen its lieutenant col-onel. Being accustomed to walking, he gave up his horse to men less able to walk. At the day's close he found himself in profuse perspiration, and, naving brought few clothes, was rubbed down after a dip in a brook. Then his servant gave him the slept in the open air. His vigorous is exercise in the sun, the sleping in the open air, the plain food and constant rubbing down—massage—though he did not have the word, all joined to an object in life—brought about such health that never, during his whole life, did my father discontinue it.

He had discovered to the slepting in a blanket, later are lowing sizes: 5 1-2, 3; 5 5-8, 35; 6 3-4, 111; 65; 6 7-8, 212; 7, 275; 7 1-8, 249; 7 1-4, 165; 7 3-8, 75; 7 1-2, 24; 7 5-8, 3.

The manager informed us that there are calls for hats 7 3-4, five or six during the season, and there are many with 7 5-8 size which have hats made to order. We asked him if he had discovered to the slepting in the owing sizes: 5 1-2, 3; 6 5-8, 35; 6 3-4, 111; hogg quall, turn food and untol silver for barte for their church which is the same than the best tains, which for the sum of the sum

In the meantime, he must keep a shirp discontinue it.

He had discovered for himself the cardescent Sultana generally rocates in the treatment for common branches of the big cedar tree in sumption and never had any return; but the mask generally rocate from which she takes delight in making long dives at her keepers. in making long drives at her keepers.

Another keeper goes into the cage with the first to look after the snakes in the first to look after the snakes in the clixic of life. His flesh was as white the first to look after the snakes in the clixic of life. His flesh was as white the first to look after the snakes in the clixic of life. His flesh was as white the first to look after the snakes in the clixic of life. His flesh was as white the first to look after the snakes in the clixic of life. His flesh was as white the first to look after the snakes in the clixic of life. His flesh was as white the first to look after the snakes in the clixic of life. His flesh was as white the first to look after the snakes in the clixic of life. His flesh was as white said the look of the following the with Again he is being driven into that the wears a hat of size 75-8. J. Pierpont Morgan, the banker; H. B. Hyde, of the Equitor of the snakes in the clixic of life. His flesh was as white sed to the snakes in the clixic of life. His flesh was as white the clixic of life. His flesh was as white sed to the snakes in the clixic of life. His flesh was as white sed to the first limitated Bine long view into that the following sed to the farth was a war of externation. The Yaqui of the following shew it. Again he is being driven into that the was a war of externation. The Yaqui of the following sed to the first limitated Bine long view in the clixic of life. His flesh was as white sed to the following sed to the following shew it. Again he is being driven into that the following shew it. Again he is being driven into that the wint as well in the clixic of life. His flesh was as white sed to the following sed to the first life life life in the clixic of life. His flesh was as white sed to the limitate Bine long with the clixic of life. His flesh was as white sed to the limitate Bine long with the clixic of life. His flesh was as white sed to the clixic of life. His flesh was as white said the clixic of life. His flesh was as white sa spinal column at its extreme end. This produced cancer. He would not let his physicians tell the truth. "Fistula," hey called it. "For." said my father, "my daughters are all young women bearing carries of the barker; Col. W. I. Brown, publisher; J. E. Milholland, of the "New York Tribune;" Dr. Griffith, Alexander Williams, excinspacetor of police.

ful training of mother and friend in boy-hood, and the reasons why a life-time of

Custom House.

rats which infest the building. They have had reason lately to change their minds. for certain things have come up which | have demonstrated to the cursom house

them introduced the cat system of rat catching in the postoffice with good results. The rodents disappeared from their accustomed haunts in the building and were replaced by three cats, each a ratter ounced ability. The officials rubbed their hands gleefully and in a fit of gen-erosity sent on a request to Washington that the Treasury Department make a monthly appropriation of \$2 to provide food for the cate. This suggestion the Treasury Department treated with more or less scorn. To the chagrin of the local officials, the department informed them that it had placed the letter on file. The offi-cials kept up the merry dig into their pockets for loose change with which to

the Treasury Department. But they did not forget to gloat over the fact that they had gained the mastery of the rat problem. That is, they didn't until recently. But May 19, 1990, will go down on record in custom house circles much 4 Black Friday has throughout the civilized world. The deputy collectors all looked cies, are being more and more supported sad then, and even the Czar of East Provi-dence, who deigns to occupy the Collector's applied to the complex being known as

office building to which the cats do n: have access. That is the place in which the bonded goods are stored in the basement. This is kept locked, for there is a sufficient stock of choice wines and b-an-dies stored there to set up several sulcons. It did not take the rats long to discover that the cats were not permitted to enter this sacred spot. They laid their plans accordingly and by exercise much perseverance and many sharp teeth managed to bore a hole through the wall and penetrate to the remotest depths of the storeroom. Yesterday an importer called to take some of his choice brandy from the warehouse. He is a careful man and noticed that the custom house stamp usually affixed to the cask by the gauger was missing. He called the attention of the proper officials to this fact, and an investigation was insti-tuted. It was discovered that the stamps have been removed from a number of the casks. Further search showed that must have been the rodents which did the the paste with which the stamps were afget at the paste.

Duplicate stamps had to be furnished, and it is now a question whither the de-partment at Washington will choose to furnish stamps or whether it will show a preference for appropriating \$2 for cat ment. At any rate, the rats threaten to become a public nuisance, for if the casts had gone out without the stamps their contents would have been liable to seizure, and then the expense attendant upthis would have fallen upon the importer

CONCERNING HATS AND HEADS. Blg Skulls Have No Advantages Over

Those of Lesser Dimensions. When Mr. Gladstone died the "London stated that his head was of exceptional size, and gave an incident which Gladstone told at Lord Ripon's residence, desperation, for an Aberdeen hat. point of this was that Scotchmen have larger heads than Irishmen or Englishmen. The "News" recalls the special study in hats made by Dr. Collins, in the course of which it was mentioned that Mr. Gladstone's number in hats was 73-8.

A No. 7 hat is the average English size.

Sir Walter Scott's and Lord Beaconsfield's hats were of this size. The hats of John Bright, Robert Burns, and Charles Dickens were 71-8 Lord John Russell's 71-4-all smaller than Mr Gladstone's. But the Gladstone hat was exceeded in size by that of Dr. Chalmers, 73-4. Daniel O'Connell, whom Gladstone styled the greatest Irishman who ever lived, wore a hat of the size of 8. The late Dr. Thomas, Archbishop of York, wore a large 8, and Joseph Hume's was emphatically appormal, \$1-4. At a meeting of the convention of London University, Dr. Collins had 126 hats measured, and found that between 40 and 41 per cent were above the English average, between 25 and 30 per cent were just the average size, and 54 per cent were under the average.

When Bismarck died, Herr Friedrich H. Kranz, the present head of the old Frank-fort firm of hatmakers, Martini & Co., ommunicated some trade statistics to the Fifty years ago, according '5 the first to twenty men, killing everything that record of the Martini "Kopfmass machine," Bismarck's head had a width of "For a short time little was heard from 59 1-2 centimetres. During the last years of his life his head had swollen to the width of 62 centimetres. It is obvious that this statement means width, but a circumference, for the 62 centimetres are equal to twenty-four and forty-one hundredth inches, which would give him a size of about No. 8. Concerning his head's swelling, this would mean a thickening of the scalp of two-fifths of an inch all round.

On reading these statistics it occurred to us to call at what is generally sup-posed to be the leading hat store in this country, and probably the most numerously patronized of the "big headed" class (perhaps in both good senses of the word) in this city, and to enquire of the manager concerning the relative proportions size of heads in a large order. He kindly responded to our request, showing us that in four lots of twenty-four dozen each,

was as and there are many with 7 5-8 size
who have hats made to order. We asked waged active war off and on for fourteen

called it. For, the control of the following wears size 7 3-4:
daughters are all young women bearing children; they must not have the long agony of the inevitable."

A more happy and united life cannot well be thought of than my father's, the general's and my own. We three made one,

on the 31st of May:

Cockran, the orator, require hats of 7 7-8. my health is very good, but my hands are somewhat stiff from rheumatism, which explains my irregular writing. I was sure you would like the facts I have given you, for they explain the care-like the state of the firm we consulted. For him they regularly made a hat 8 3-8. In order to make a comparison with Enabstemious habits brought its reward in measure upon the principle of the cval. When a head is 7 3-4 inches long and 6 1-2 JESSIE BENTON FREMONT.
P. S.—As the war was delayed, my father accepted a commission from the President of lieutenant colonel, United States Army (regulars), in the Thirty-ninth Infantry. He was on duty at Quebec at the time of the battle of New Orleans. Peace being declared, he resumed his practice as a lawyer.

JESSIE BENTON FREMONT.

SHREWD OLD RODENTS.

A Rat Evasion of Official Cats in a Custom House.

When a head is 73-4 inches long and 61-2 inches wide, they add the two measured and is always then at a festa drop everything to crowd around her to touch her gown as she was on her way to the head. The American method is different. Here the circumference of the head is carefully measured, and is always estimated one-eighth more, so that Gladmiles to see her and to be treated for some real or imaginary disease, and all are urement, would be 71-2 American, and all the American heads reduced to the English measured, and would be one-eighth less.

Persons having large heads should not fancy that this demonstrates greater ability than is possessed by those whose skulls are smaller, nor should the latter be discouraged, for it is easy to prove that

(From the Providence Journal.)

It was not so very long ago that there were certain officials connected with the local custom house who expressed the opinion that they were wiser than the raffs which infest the building. They have 7 1-8, according to the American plan. Lord short of satanic.

The officials who were fond of deluding themselves with the idea that it took more than a horde of rais to get the better of than a horde of rais to get the better of with the sum total of brain power, measrat ured by mental results. Such phenomenal re-beings as Blind Tom are not as rare as their might be supposed. He seems very exraordinary because of his musical power, but similar unquestionable results of brain configuration, quantity and relation to the movements of the mystical force that agitates them, can alone account for such pe-cultarities. The largest heads of peasants we have ever seen were among the Cre-

tins of Switzerland, most of whom are bu little above idiots.

The old school phrenologists, with their charts, can produce many plausible coincidences, and they will always have a fol-lowing, since those who have large heads will be predisposed to believe in their syspurchase cat meat, and spent their spare tem; but it will always be strongly op-moments in saying unkind things about posed, since those who have small heads have a constitutional objection to their

chair, was subdued in spirit. It appears man, more and more will modify the views free that there is one spartment in the post- of psychologists.

THE YAODI INDIAN WAR

Impressions Gained by a Sojourner in Their Country.

Never Give Up Their Soil to the Mexican Government Until Their Race Is Completely Exterminated -Love for Their Native Valley.

After a three months' sojourn in Mexico Dr. Frank J. Tourcaint, of Milwaukee, has returned home. Much of his time during his absence was spent in the Yaqui River country, and walle there he embraced the opportunity of looking into the grievances of the Indians thereabouts who are now in revolt against the Mexican Government, He had quite a number of these Indians in his employ and speaks of them as a sturdy, lot of fellows, and good workers. As field hands they are the best to be had in the Republic. As miners they are equal to any he has ever seen. Their long experience in the mountains has made them keen observers, and it is safe to say that 1897 the per capita consumption had fallen many of the good abordened old mines. many of the good abandoned old mines almost one-third. are well known to the Yaouis.

"After a short stay in New Mexico and a brief stop over in Arizona," said the doctor to a reporter the other day, "I crossed the border at Nogales, and after an all-night ride arrived in the clean, well-kept city of Hermosello, the capital of the State of Sonora. It is, in my opin-ion, one of the most picturesque and advanced cities in the whole Republic. It is surrounded by mountains and orange groves, and has macadamized streets, cement sidewalks, beautiful parks, modern homes, large factory buildings, street railways, and electric lights, grand old churches, a ring for bull fights, and many other objects to attract and interest

strangers. "The next day I staged it forty-five miles to Ures, where I received my pack and saddle animals and started for the Yaqui River. In the morning of the third day we passed the spot where a few months ago General Torres captured a large band of Yaqui Indians and after picking out all the old men, children and women, whom he sent into another part of the Republic, he ordered the 329 young lighting backs, the total Australia. fighting bucks shot and buried.

"From here to the south and east leads the bloodyrail made by the Mexican troops as they slowly drove the Yaqui Indians into the small narrow strip of land where they were hemmed in on the west and south by the waters of the Guif of California, on the east by the Yaqui River, patrolled by the Mexican gunboat Democrata, and on the north by the unbroken line of well mounted and armed troops. One evening as the gunbout came close to the shore it was fired on by the Yaquis and twelve officers and men were killed, after which the Indians retired "Hamburger Nachrichten," which the in good order. That night they crept "London Times" published for the benefit through the line of troops and scattered of future biographers and physiologists. into the mountains in bands of from five

the brave men who were fighting for their homes and liberty. More is at stake. They are fighting for the beautiful and fertile Yaqui River valley, the rich fields in which roamed the Yaqui herds of cattle, goats, and horses; the towns and cities on the river banks in which their fathers and forefathers had lived. They are a fairly intelligent people, but they cannot understand why they should be driven out of their homes—because the whole valley had been given to one man for services rendered the Government during the war with Maxmillan.

"As long as they live they will never give up that valley of unmeasured rich soil, which gave them corn, beans, tobacco, oranges, bananas, figs, dates, melons petas, chemoros, and many other fruits. They love the valley for its roses and brilliant wild flowers, the river alive with fish and the beautiful sky-scraping moun tains, which furnished deer, bear, hog, quall, turkey, and other game food and untold quantities of gold and silver for barter and ornaments

attacked a well-guarded supply train on its way to General Torres' camp, killing three and wounding several others who were left with the wagons while the supply exort was out running down the Indians. The latter were outnumbered, perhaps sixteen to one.

"One of the local celebrities of the Yaqui Valley at the present critical stage bound. For twenty years after that, or until his death, he used the Bible at funwoman who styles herself a saint, a sort erals. of Yagui Joan of Arc. She is called Santa of Yaqui Joan of Arc. She is called Santa Maria Teresa. She is with the Yaquis and is said to be directing their movements. The devotion of these poor unfortunate Indians is something almost beyond realization. I have seen hundreds of them kneeling in the dusty roads with their heads bowed to the ground, asking the seen hundreds of the said of him that Mary Queen of Scotz, was said of him that Mary Queen fortunate Indians is something almost be-yond realization. I have seen hundreds of their heads bowed to the ground, asking

couraged, for it is easy to prove that faster and go in directions from which the

tion are streaming into the Yaqui country. Chelmsford's size was 61-2; the Duke of York's, 65-8; Dean Stanley's, 63-4, and that of the Emperor of Germany, 67-8.

If a man is distinguished from the lower try as fast as long wagon trains, ten mules have demonstrated to the custom house officials that the rodents in the postoffice building are the craftiest on record and that their ingenuity in devising and cardevelopment of the anterior portion of the development of the anterior portion of the development of the anterior portion of the country. As return freight the wagon trains bring the gold and silver ore. Culrying out plans of mischief is nothing spinal cord—that is to say, by the greater trains bring the gold and silver ore. Cultivated cotton produces ten months in a year and is of finest quality. Wild cot-ton grows on trees, which yield one crop stepping on it. One grain produces from twelve to thirty-five stalks. Each stalk has from fifteen to thirty kernels of wheat."—Chicago Chronicle.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars' Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Chency for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all busine transactions and financially able to car out any obligation made by their firm.

WEST & TRUAX Wholeskie Druggists, Toledo, O. WALDING, KINNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally acting directly apon the blood and nucous surfaces of the system. Price 75c per bot-tle. Sold by all Druggists. Testimonials

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

DECREASE IN TIPPLING.

Americans Drinking Less Liquo Than in Former Years. (From the Philadelphia Press.)

Alcoholic beverages always increase in consumption during periods of prosperity and decrease when times are hard, but it is arkable proof of the steady decrease in the general consumption of spirits in this country that during the present season of prosperity the per capita consump-tion of spirits is far below that in like saesons in the past. In 1884 the highest point of annual con

sumption reached during a period of pros-perity was 1.48 gallons per person. After the panic a decrease tollowed to 1.21 gailons per capita in 1887. Consumption in-creased again to 1.51 in 1882. It fell under President Cleveland's Administration and reached the lowest level on record of a yearly consumption of spirits in 1896, of only one gallon per capita. From this point it increased and in 1899 it was 1.15 gallons per person or barely three the yearly per capita consumption in 1892.

This decrease in the consumption of alcoholic liquors has been in progress for
two generations and the average annual amount of spirits consumed per capita in this country is now only two-fifths of what

It is remarkable also that the consump-It is remarkable also that the consump-tion of wine varies in much the same way. It rose a little over one-half a gallon p r hend in 1880, .56 of a gallon; decreased steadily through the depression of 1885; rose again in 1888 to .61 of a gallon, and then continued to decrease, reaching ts lowest point in 1895, when it was only .26 of a gallon per person. From this point it of a gallon per person. From this point it has increased and in 1899 was 25 of a gallon. The consumption of wine does not follow as closely the general condition of prosperity as the consumption of spirits but it bears a close relation to the general

Malt liquors, on the other hand, have increased steadily in annual consumption with great regularity and through all years. In 1875, a quarter of a century ago, the yearly average per capita consumption in this country was 6.71 gallons. At in-crease has gone on with great steadiness in good years and bad alike until in 1892-93 the consumption reached the highest point which it had ever had-16.08 galons. Then for the first time since malt liquors were introduced in this country by the German emigration in 1848 there began a slight decrease in the per capita consump-tion of beer. It has fallen slightly year by year, rising in 1898, as compared with 1897, but falling again in 1899, when it was 1494 gallons per capita. The additional taxes levied for war purposes of \$1 per barel may have had its effect of decreasing the consumption by slightly increasing the price, but as the price of beer per glass has in general remained the same, it is difficult to see how this can have affected retail

What has really taken place is that this country is growing more sober. It does not use one-half the spirits for beverages which it did sixty years ago, and it only about two-thirds as much as it did thirty years ago. In spite of the enor-mous increase in the product of domestic wines, which has very greatly increased in the last twenty-five years, the consumption per capita is less than it was, so that pop uiation has grown very much faster than the product, and the per capita consump-tion of beer has reached its maximum and begun to decrease. Every man's personal observation will bear out this fact. Less drinking is seen in public places and at public dinners. The accounts of many clubs for long series of years show a decrease in the amount expended in liquor proportion to the size of the member ip. The number of men who do no ship. The number of men who do not drink at all is steadily increasing.

A DISPLAY OF NOTED BIBLES.

Interesting Volumes of Sacred Liter ature in Boston.

(From the Philadelphia Record.) Boston, Mass., June 16.—Great interest is manifested in the free exhibition of a lection of Bibles and sacred literature at the Bible room of the Congregational House on Beacon Street. The greater part of the collection consists of what are of the collection consists of what are known as "workers" Bibles, and are from the library of S. Brainard Pratt, of Boston. It is probably the finest collection of Bioff and on for fou teen bles to be found in the United States, and

in service he wore out the binding, and Almost equaling the Beecher Bible in in-

was more afraid of him than she would have been of a regiment of soldiers. Another remarkable Bible is one used on the march and in three prisons during the civil war by Rev. Dr. Henry Clay Trumbull, a chaplain in the Federal Army, He preached from this Bible while confined in Libby prison, and used the marginal leaves as a sort of diary. There is salso in the collection an ancient Bible owned by Philip Melancthon, professor of Greek in the University of Wittenberg in the sixteenth century, and between whom and Luther there was the most touching friend-ship. This Bible is accompanied by Luth-er's translation of the Psalms, published in Leipzig in 1541. There is a Geneva Bi-ble of 1577, which is said to have once been owned by Queen Elizabeth.

One of the rarest books in the collection is that used by the Apostle John Elliot in preaching to the Indians. There is said to be no person alive who can read this Bible, but Mr. Pratt has been offered \$1,000 for it. He is a collector, however and never sells a book.

Among the other things in the collection new being shown there are the Psaims with Calvin's commentaries of 1571; an autograph of Samuel Mather, dated 1768 Wild cot-one crop ly; the Gospel of St. Luke, printed in Jayear and is of the second property of the first panel of the second panel of the secon mons when printed, a gift from Mrs. Spur-geon in London in 1706, containing 200 quaint engravings; a New Testament printed in letters of gold upon thick enameled card paper; a New Testament from a noted Spiritualist, and purporting to have been corrected by the spirits, with intro-ductory remarks and explanations by the spirit of Jesus Christ: two leaves of parchment found in the old Greek Church at To-sia, Aisa Minor, near the Black Sea; Scriptures of William E. Dodge, Rev. Dr. Cyrus Hamlin, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Prentiss, author of "Stepping Heavenward," Bible of Henry Thayer, of the American Bible Revision Committee. There are also copies of rare Bibles and other sacred publications and manuscripts from Africa, Arabia, Asia Minor, Egypt, Holland, Japan, Siam and Micronesia.

A unique New Testament is the "Midget," the pages of which are only five-eighth by three-fourths of an inch in size, and there is a Bible with pages 11-4 by 17-8 inches. This Bible contains eight illustrations.

WASHINGTON, D. C. POSTOFFICE NOTICE.

FOREIGN MAILS are forwarded to the ports of sailing daily, and the schedules of closings are arranged on the presumption of their uninterrupted overland transit. For the week ending June 30, 1900, the last connecting closes will be made from this office as follows:

Trans-Atlantic Mails.

TUESDAY—(c) At 9:15 p. m. for EUROPE, per s. s. St. Paul, from New York, via Southsmoton.
(c) At 11:05 p. m. for EUROPE, per s. s. Germanie, from New York, via Quesntown.
(c) At 11:05 p. m. for BELIGIUM direct, per s. s. Westernland, from New York Mail must be directed "Per s. s. Westernland."

be directed "Per s. s. Westernland."

WEDNESDAY (b) At 7:15 p. m. for EUROPE, per s. s. F. Bismarck, from New York, via Plymouth and Hamburg. Mail for FRANCE, SWITZERILAND ITALY, SPAIN, PORTUGAL, TURKEY, EGYPT, and BRITISH INDIA, via Cherbourg, mast be directed "Per s. s. F. Bismarck."

marck."
(b) At 7:15 p. m. for FRANCE, SWITZER-LAND, ITALY, SPAIN, PORTIGAL, TUR-REY, EGYPT, and BRITISH INDIA, per s. s. L'Aquitaine, from New York, via Havre. Mail for other parts of EUROPE must be directed

"Per s. s. L'Aquitaine."

FRIDAY—(b) At 7:15 p. m. for EUROPE, per s. s. Lucania, from New York, via Queenstown,
(c) At 11:95 p. m. for NETHIRH.ANDS, per s. s. Massdam, from New York. Mail must be directed "Per s. s. Massdam."
(c) At 11:05 p. m. for ITALY, per s. s. Aller, from New York, via Naples. Mail must be directed "Per s. s. Aller."
(c) At 11:05 p. m. for SCOTLAND, direct, per s. s. City of Rome, from New York. Mail must be directed "Per s. s. City of Rome."

"PRINTED MATTER ETC.—German demors."

*PRINTED MATTER, ETC.—German steame sailing from New York, on Tuesdays take Printe Matter, etc., for GERMANY, and specially a dressed Printed Matter, etc., for other parts

dessed Printed Matter, etc., for other parts of EUROPE.

American and White Star steamers sailing from New York on Wednesdays, German and French steamers from New York on Thursdays, and Can-ard and German steamers from New York on Sat-urdays, take Printed Matter, etc., for all countries for which they are advertised to carry mails.

Mails for South and Central America.

West Indies, Etc.

SUNDAY—(b) At 12:00 m., for ST. PIERRE-MIQUELON, per steamer from North Sydney,
MONDAY—(c) At 11:05 p. m. for CENTRAL
AMERICA (except Costa Rica) and SOUTH
PACIFIC PORTS, per s. s. Finance, from New
York, via Colon. Mail for GUATEMALA must
be directed "Per s. s. Finance."
(c) At 11:05 p. m. for INAGUA and HAITI,
per s. s. Europa, from New York.

TUESDAY—(d) At 0:25 s. m. for BARHAIN)S and
NORTH BRAZIL, per s. s. Cearense, from New
York.

York.

(b) At 2:30 p. m. for JAMAICA, per s. s. Admiral Farragut, from Boston.

(c) At 11:05 p. m. for NEWFOUNDLAND direct, per s. s. Silvia, from New York.

(c) At 11:05 p. m. for MEXICO, per s. s. Matanzas, from New York, via Tampico. Mail must be directed "Per s. s. Matanzas." EDNESDAY—(c) At 11:05 p. m. for GRENADA and TRINIDAD, per s. s. Maraval, from New York.

(c) At 11:05 p. m. for PORTO RICO, CURA-

(c) At 11:05 p. m. for PORTO RICO, CURA-CAO and VENEZUELA, per s. s. Maracaibo, from New York. Mail for SAVANILIA and CARTHAGENA, via Curacao, must be directed

CARTHAGENA, via Curacao, must be directed "Per s. s. Maracaibo."

(c) At 11:65 p. m. for CAMPECHE, CHIA-PAS, TABASCO, and YUCATAN, per s. s. Seguranca, from New York, via Progresso. Mail for other parts of MEXICO must be directed "Per s. s. Seguranca."

THURSDAY (b) At 2:30 p. m. for JAMAICA, per s. s. Admiral Sampson, from Boston.

(c) At 11:65 p. m. for PORTO RICO, per s. s. Mae, from New York, via Posce.

(e) At 11:65 p. m. for INAGIA and CAPE GRACIAS, per s. s. Origen, from New York.

Mail for JAMAICA, BELIZE, PUERTO CORTEZ, and GUATEMALA, must be directed "Per s. s. Origen."

PRIDAY—(c) At 11:65 p. m. for LA PLATA COUNTRIES, per s. s. Parana, from New York.

Marshall Hall and Indian Head Trips

Marshall Hall and Indian Head Trips

York.

(c) At 11:95 p. m. for FORTUNE ISLAND,
JAMAICA, SAVANILLA, and CARTHAGENA,
per s. s. Alleghany, from New York. Mail
for COST RICA must be directed "Per s. s. for COST RICA must be directed.

Alleghany."

(c) At 11:05 p. m. for INAGUA and HAITI, per s. s. Alps. from New York.

(c) At 11:05 p. m. for TURKS ISLAND and DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, per s. s. New York, from New York.

(c) At 11:05 p. m. for MATANZAS, CAIBARREN, NUEVITAS, GIBARA, and BARACOA, per s. s. Olinda, from New York. Ordinary correspondence only must be directed "Per s. s. Olinda,"

Mails for NEWFOUNDLAND, by rall to north Sydney, and thence via steamer, close here daily except Sunday at 12:00 m., and on Sundays only t 11:30 a. m. (d) (h)
Muils for MIQUELON, by mil to Boston, and
hence via steamer, close here daily at 3:15 p.

m. (d) CUBA MAILS close here via Port Tampo, Fla. Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays, at 2:20 p. Miami, Fla., Tuesdays and Saturdays at

Via Miami, Fix., Deceays and Saturdays at 10:30 a. m. (f) Mails for MEXICO overland, unless specially ad-dressed for despatch by steamer sailing from New York, close here daily at 10:30 a. m. and 10:00 p. m. (k) Mails for COSTA RICA, BELIZE, PUERTO COR-TEZ, GUATEMALA, by rail to New Orleans, and thence via steamer, close here daily at 10:00 p.m., the connecting closes for which being Sundays and Tuesdays for COSTA RICA, and Mondays for

BELIZE, PUERTO CORTEZ, and GUATEMALA. Trans-Pacific Mails. Mails for CHINA, " JAPAN, HAWAH, and PHILIPPINE ISLANDS," via San Francisco, close here
daily at 6:25 p. m., up to July 5, inclusive, for
despatch per s. s. Nippen Maru. (o)

Mails for CHINA" and JAPAN, via Vancouver,
close here daily at 6:35 p. m., up to July 3, inclusive, for despatch per s. s. Empress of China,
Registered mail must be directed "Via Vancouver." (o)

Registered mail must be directed "Via Vancouver." (o)
Mails for CHINA," JAPAN, HAWAII, and PHILIPPINE ISLANIS, "via San Francisco, close here
daily at 6:35 p. m., up to July 5, inclusive, for
despatch per s. s. Nippon Marn. (o)
Mails for CHINA," JAPAN, and PHILIPPINE
ISLANIS," via Tacoma, close here daily at 6:35
p. m., up to July 5, inclusive, for despatch per
s. s. Goodwin. (o)
Mails for AUSTRALIA (except West Australia),
NEW ZEALAND, HAWAII, FIJI, and SAMOAN
ISLANDS, via San Francisco, close here daily at
6:25 p. m., after June 23, and up to July 7, inclusive, for despatch per s. s. Moana. (o)
Mails for CHINA," JAPAN, and PHILIPPINE
ISLANDS," via Scattle, close here daily at 6:35
p. m., up to July 21, inclusive, for despatch per
s. Riojun Maru. Registered mail must be directed "Via Scattle," (o)
Mails for HAWAII, via San Francisco, close here

eted "Via Scattle," (o) Mails for HAWAII, via San Francisco, close here Mails for HAWAII, via San Francisco, close here daily at 6:35 p. m., up to July 20, inclusive, for despatch per s. s. Australia, (o)

Mails for AUSTRALIA (except West Australia, which agoes via Europe, and New Zealand, which goes via San Francisco), HAWAII and FIJI ISL-ANDS, via Vancouver, close here daily at 6:35 p. m., up to July 21, inclusive, for despatch per g. s. Miowera." (o)

'Mails for COCHIN CHINA are forwarded to New York for connection with European steamers, "PHILIPPINE ISLANDS (Military Mail) despatched to San Francisco at all closes for that office to connect with Government Transports, the sailings of which are irregular.

(b) Registered mails close at 1:00 p. m. same day.

day.
(c) Registered mails close at 8:00 p. m. same (d) Registered mails close at 5:00 a. m. same

(e) Registered mails close at 1:00 p. m. previous (f) Registered mails close at 1:00 p. m. previous (h) Registered mails close at 12:00 p. m. preions Saturday.
(k) Registered mails close at S:00 p. m. pre-

(o) Registered mails close at 5:00 p. m. pre-

JOHN A. MERRITT, Postmaster.

THE GRIP OF THE STILETTO. Experts Only Know How to Use the Deadly Dagger.

(From the London Paily Mail.)

When Sipido purchased that revolver which happily proved so useless in his inexperienced hands, he was departing from the established preference of the assassin for the dagger. British theatregoers are familiar with this preference, for the melodramatic villian is a born stabber, and the gleam of that wicked bit of steel under his wounded with a file. A stilletto, of course, iron wrist has moved a hundred galleri's was used, but it was probably quite unfa-

blade forms a part.

Instead, therefore, of the point going un-

AMUSEMENTS.

GO TODAY! **GO EVERY DAY**

Beautiful

WILDWOOD.

Polite Vaudeville and Dancing

EVERY EVENING AT 8:15. Matinees Wednesday and Saturday, REFRESHMENTS. Excellent Cuisine, a la Carte Table d'Hote.

GLEN ECHO PARI

SUNDAY CONCERTS, 4 AND 8 P. HALEY'S WASHINGTON BAND, FLAG SALUTES AND MUSIC OF ALL NATIONS.

Ampitheatre, Vaudeville Week Nights. SOLARET, THE QUEEN OF LIGHT,

MARVELOUS AND BEAUTIFUL DANCES, Amelia Brown, in darkey dialect; Morel and Evans, singing comedians; Rice Brothers, comedy gymnasts; John Daly and Annie Devere, Aif. Holt.

NO LIQUORS-NOTHING OBJECTIONABLE. Direct cars from 15th and E. Capitol sts., 32d and M sts., and Chevy Chase Circle. je23-tf,em

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT,

Consisting of Choruses from the Flower Queen Cantata, May dances, etc., at Masonic Hall, Wed-nesday, June 27, at 8 p. m. Tickets on sale at Sanders & Stayman's. Re-served seats, 50 cents. Chevy Chase Lake.

in Break-away Ladder and Trapeze Performancea jels-tf ADMISSION FREE.

EXCURSIONS. RIVER The Favorite

Marshall Hall and Indian Head Trips

Steamer Charles Macalester.

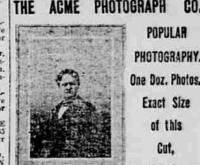
Chautauqua Beach.

The prettiert summer resort on the Chesapeake Bay, fermerly Bay Ridge, now open for excursions. Trains leave B. & O. station daily, except Sunday as follows: 9:30 a. m., 4:35 p. m.; leave leach, 7:45 p. m. Liberal terms to Sunday schools, societies, etc. Religious services every Sunday. Hotel now open for guests. Apply to R. H. PARKER, Bay Ridge, or Chautauqua Beach, Md.

FOR SUMMER DRINKS

CHRIS. XANDER'S DASPBERRY SYRUP.

909 Seventh St.



PHOTOGRAPHY. One Doz. Photos. **Exact Size** of this Cut,

For 25 Cents. That is certainly bringing down prices, surely, for such neat, artistic work, vorite" Photos, in beautiful mezzotints, cost only ONE DOLLAR per dozen! Careful posing to ensure faithful pictures, Cheapest studio in town for fine work. The following letter needs no comment: Washington, D. C., May 19, 1990.

F. Wm. Ernst, Washington, D. C. Sir: This is to acknowledge the receipt of 1 (one) doz. Photos mailed on 17th inst., and must say am well pleased with same.

For cheap work 'hey are far better than
expected. Thanks to you. Respectfully,

A. W. LEONARD,

St. Filtenbach D. C.

St. Elizabeth, D. C. The studio is elegantly lighted, thus affording every opportunity to turn out really fine work. During these bright days is a good time to take a sitting with The Acme Photograph Company, 934 F Street, WILLIAM ERNST, Manager.

fourth he folds into the palm of his hand. The folded "little finger"—lying with its lowest section against the inside of the dagger handle—gives a slight outward thrust and corrects the tendency of the dagger point to swing in a curve. Held this way, the dagger will hit the postage stamp, as the Vankees say, "every time." But the stilletto, rather than the dagger, is the ideal weapon of the assassin. Few people know what the true stiletto is like, and fewer still how it is manipulated. In the first place it has no hilt, only a wooden

iron wrist has moved a hundred galleri s wounded with a file. A stiletto, of course, to hisses and cat calls.

gleam of that wicked bit of steel under his iron wrist has moved a hundred galleri's to hisses and cat calls.

If an Italian or Spanlard happened to witness one of the many dagger epizodes of the British stage he would neither hiss nor hoot—he would smile. For the stage dagger and the stage grip of it he would have nothing but contempt.

If the reader would know the reason of the foreigner's mirth let him grasp a stout office rule in the same conventional fashion as the stage villian does his equally stagey weapon, and swing it in the overhand thrust beloved of the theatrical stabber.

He will find that he cannot hit once in a score of times a postage stamp stuck on the wall at the height of an imaginary victim's bosom. The swinging arm is practically the radius of a circle, of which circle the blade forms a part.

Instead, therefore, of the point going unlocked.

erring to its mark it moves in a curve, which almost invariably will throw it clear of the point aimed at.

The expert's grip upon the dagger is a singular one, but it achieves its object. He only takes the handle of the weapon with States.

Season your admiration for a while with a good glass of beer, containing all the beneficial qualities of malt and hops. 'Phone 634, Arlington Bottling Co., for a case of Heurich's Maeram, Senator, or Lager, the best brewed in the United States.